



Heads message

As I write my half termly Head's message for this edition of the Newsletter, I am reminded just how quickly time goes. Indeed, a year ago this week, we were still gripped by the 'Beast from the East' and I was announced as the successor to Mr. Lister as Head teacher. It all seems like this happened last month!

Time is indeed a precious commodity and when chatting to pupils and staff, we're struggling to understand where the weeks are going. We are now less than eight school weeks until Year 2 and 6 SAT's and sixteen school weeks until we finish for summer. Whilst we are continuing to focus on the here and now, the staff have already started planning for a change to our curriculum and the way in how we will be inspected by Ofsted as 2019/20 will be bringing lots of changes within education. Over the course of the next few Newsletters, I am hoping to share with you what these exciting changes are and how they are going to further improve standards and experiences for our pupils.

Indeed, it is experiences that our pupils embrace which we want to improve and increase such as adding to our recent achievements. Below are the Year 5 girls who won the Science Technology Engineering Maths (STEM) competition at the High School and the Schools Swimming team who clinched Silver at the Boston Gala in February. Thanks to Miss Ingamells, Mrs Tyler, Mr Mitchell and parents/families who supported the swimmers in achieving this result.

Mr. Kelwick



Car Park and Pedestrian Gates – security message

Commencing 18th March, the school car park and pedestrian gates will be closed between 08:55 and 15:00 due to security, safeguarding and logistical reasons.

Unfortunately, we are not blessed with the adequate car parking facilities a school this size requires and we have received a number of near misses to parked vehicles in a morning. As such, the car park gates will be locked between the aforementioned hours, however, the pedestrian entrance will simply be closed and we ask that any pupils and parents who are late, to use this entrance from 08:55 onwards.

Procedures for the end of the school day and collection for after school clubs will not change.

Mobile devices

We have introduced a new E-safety policy in school. This can be accessed from the Policy pages on our website. Within this, we have stated in Section 8, regarding devices;

Only Upper Key Stage 2 pupils (Years 5 and 6) may bring mobile devices into school. This is to be used for those pupils who walk home in order to promote positive safeguarding outside of school. Devices are to be switched 'off' and then handed in to their class teacher at the start of the day (they must not be left in lockers) and returned to the pupil when leaving the school. Devices are not to be switched 'on' until pupils have left the school exit gate or front entrance.

Pupils are not permitted to use mobile devices during:

- Lessons,
- Free time such as break times and/or lunchtimes,
- Clubs before or after school, or any other activities organised by the school,
- After school events such as discos, proms and fayres/fates.
- Offsite sporting events such as fixtures and/or tournaments.

Photographs using any mobile device is strictly not permitted. Any breach of the acceptable use agreement by a pupil may trigger disciplinary action in line with the school behaviour policy, which may result in the confiscation of their device.

We hope this clarifies the issue moving forward.

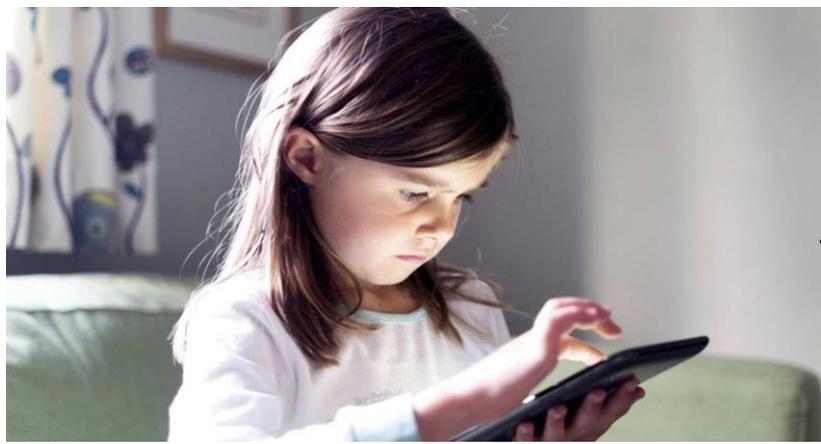
PFA

The PFA held a great Valentine Disco with excellent attendance from both KS1 and KS2. Profit made was £436.02 which is a healthy one and with little stock to carry forward. Currently, the Summer Fayre is in the planning stage so all effort is going into that. If any parents are business owners or have connections with any businesses, the PFA are looking for donations towards the Raffle. As it is the 50th anniversary celebrations of the school, the hope is that this year's fayre is the biggest and best yet! Unfortunately, we have had no successors to Sonia Scott and Paula Ground, whose tenures will end when their youngest children depart for secondary school in July meaning that events such as discos and fayre simply won't happen next year. If there are any interested parties, please feel free to speak to the PFA, the School Administration team or Mr. Kelwick.

Policies

A number of policies have been updated or introduced. These can be accessed on the Policies page of our website.

Recently updated policies include: Behaviour Principles Written Statement, E-safety, Freedom of information scheme, Non-smoking inc. e-cigarettes, Food and Nut Free. Amended policies: Behaviour (see Appendices, update includes specific guidance on the consequences of mis-using mobile devices in school)



Online, App and Internet Safety

This week, we are updating our e-safety webpage on the website (<http://www.hawthorntree.co.uk/page/?title=e-Safety&pid=30>). We have included a new number of useful guides and posters about the ever changing world of apps for mobile devices which have been produced by the National Online Safety team, <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/resources/platform-guides/>. In the Resources-Platform Guides section, there are a number of guides aimed at Parents (but also useful for pupils too) on what to look out regarding popular apps such as Instagram, Facebook, Youtube, Fortnite, Fifa, Tik Tok, Snapchat, Minecraft etc.

With recent news headlines warning of specific apps and online media content being hacked in which disturbing messages are being shared with the aim of targeting young, vulnerable children, these guides will help to monitor your child's activity when online through various devices.

In school we have shared these guides in our Key Stage 2 corridor so if you are interested or want to find out more, please feel free to read these at the upcoming Parents Evening event at the end of March.

Parents evening dates for Term 4

The next dates for Parents Evening have been scheduled for Tuesday 26th March 2019 and Thursday 28th March 2019.

Gold Award

We were delighted to welcome Mr. Haslam to our school on Friday 1st March who presented us with the Your School Games 'Gold' award.



Sport

We had a tremendous performance entered into the dance festival which was spoken very highly of; credit goes to the commitment of our dancers who work very hard to get the best out of themselves. We have also had some great successes at the swimming Gala during half term, placing second amongst the middle-sized schools. Thanks to Parents/Guardians for bringing their children to this event and allowing them to have the opportunity. Also some great performances were seen within the Cross country last week with four of our children placing within the top 20. Training takes place on a Monday lunchtime. Please see the office for a letter if this interests you. We have had children attend Netball and Gymnastics development days and have a tennis development day coming up this term. Boccia and Change4life events are coming up this term too!

Attendance Information

Please note, Parents must ask for permission in writing for any absence at least two weeks before the requested absence. Absence can only be authorised in 'exceptional circumstances'.

Upcoming term dates (please check the website for more events and dates added on a weekly basis)

7 th Mar	World Book Day (8 th Mar – Year 2 dress up due to trip on 7 th)	6 th May	School closed – Bank holiday Monday
15 th Mar	Red Nose Day – non uniform, wear something red	13 th May	KS2 Grammar, Punctuation, Spelling SAT
19 th Mar	StarLincs Planetarium in school - Reception AM, Year 5 PM	14 th May	KS2 Reading SAT
26 th Mar	Parents evening 1, 15:30-19:00	15 th May	KS2 Arithmetic and Reasoning 1 SAT
28 th Mar	Parents evening 2, 15:30-18:00	16 th May	Reasoning 2 SAT
2 nd Apr	Year 1 Trip to Village Church Farm, Skegness	24 th May	School closes for May half term break
3 rd Apr	Class & Team Photographs (Writes Photographers)		
5 th Apr	School closes for Easter Break		
23 rd Apr	School reopens for Term 5		
2 nd May	School open – Polling Station for local elections		

